

MAEG 1004

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, JUNE 2015.

Non-Semester — First Year

English

LITERARY CRITICISM AND THEORY

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 100 marks

PART A — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer any FIVE of the following.

1. What does Johnson mean when he says that Shakespeare is “a poet of nature”?
2. How does Wordsworth define poetry?
3. What is poetry, according to Coleridge?
4. How does Arnold estimate Shakespeare and Milton?
5. “Honest criticism and sensitive appreciation is directed not upon the poet but upon the poetry” — What does T.S. Eliot mean by this statement?
6. What does I.A. Richards say about “Tone” and “Intention”?

7. How does Raymond Williams explain the passing over of realism to the progressive and revolutionary movements?

8. How does Cleanth Brooks analyse the following passage?

"Can storied urn or animated bust
Back to its mansion call the fleeing breath?
Can Honor's voice provoke the silent dust,
Or Flattery soothe the dull cold ear of death?"

PART B — (5 × 12 = 60 marks)

Answer any FIVE of the following.

9. "Preface to Shakespeare is an impartial estimate of Shakespeare's virtues and defects by a powerful mind" — Comment.

10. Discuss Wordsworth's views on poetic diction.

11. Give an analysis of Ch 17 of Biographia Literaria.

12. "The superior character of truth and seriousness, in the matter and substance of the best poetry, is inseparable from the superiority of diction and movement marking its style and manner" — Explain Matthew Arnold's argument in Study of Poetry.

13. "No poet, no artist of any art, has his complete meaning alone. His significance, his appreciation is the appreciation of his relation to the dead poets and artists" — Discuss T.S. Eliot's concept of tradition in the light of this statement.

14. How does I.A. Richards establish that the four kinds of meaning are interconnected in poetry?

15. "The creative writer does the same as the child at play" — How does Sigmund Freud compare the concepts of childhood games and the adult fantasy world emerging from unfulfilled desire?

16. "The elements of a poem are related to each other, not as blossoms juxtaposed in a bouquet, but as the blossoms are related to the other parts of a growing plant" — Comment on Cleanth Brooks' concept of irony as a principle of structure.